

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 1, 10 and 17 are amended. No new matter is added.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cochran, U.S. Pat. No. 5,995,979 (hereinafter "Cochran") in view of Waugh et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,473,898 (hereinafter "Waugh"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants submit that Cochran and Waugh, individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest, *inter alia*, "an analysis of an operating parameter using the operation parameter list is performed to determine appropriate operating conditions of the system", as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 10 and 17.

Cochran merely discloses a method for managing the presentation of search terms on a computer terminal or other display devices so that databases may be searched. Multiple lists search terms, such as words, symbols or phrases are displayed adjacent to list - identifiers (also referred to as index names or indexes). The search terms contain the list of only those that are actually available in the database. The user may then examine the new subset of search terms and either view one or all of the records located, further limit the search, or reset all or part of the search (col. 8, line 54 - col. 9, line 23).

Similarly, Waugh discloses a system and method for compiling data defining objects, such as, components to be configured into a personal computer system (Abstract).

However, Applicants submit that both references of Cochran and Waugh fail to disclose or even mention performing an analysis of an operating parameter using the operation parameter list to determine the appropriate operating condition, as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 10 and 17.

As an example embodiment of the present invention, an operating parameter list (OPL) may be used to analyze and determine the specific operating parameters (e.g., amount of fuel and highest operating temperature) for operations and processes of a power plant (e.g., boiling water, reactor plants), and in particular, each plan operation cycle. Each time a new component part or replacement part is to be installed, an analysis using an OPL may be needed. For example, before installing a new fuel set for a reactor, an analysis of a specific operating parameters using an OPL may be performed to determine appropriate operating conditions. This analysis may be performed, for example, in order to maximize the useful life of the fuel set.

Accordingly, Cochran and Waugh, individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest an analysis of an operating parameter is performed using the operation parameter list to determine appropriate operating conditions of the system, as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 10 and 17.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, claims 1, 10 and 17 and those claims dependent thereon are allowable over the applied art. Claims 2-9, 11-16 and 18-21 are also allowable by virtue of their dependency to claims 1, 10 or 17. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

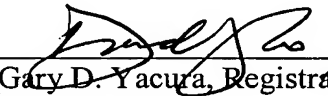
In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of each of claims 1-21 is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the Gary D. Yacura, Reg. No. 35,416 at the telephone number below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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